THE CLAIMS

- 1. (Currently Amended) A method for communicating with electronic postcards comprising:
 - a) providing a server for processing electronic postcards;
 - b) selecting at least one input site remote from the server, wherein the at least one input site is at a travel location accessible to a plurality of senders of electronic postcards visiting the travel location;
 - establishing a verified communication link between the at least one input site and the server;
 - d) providing a sender input device at the at least one input site for receiving input information from a sender, the request associated with each of the senders including an addressee e-mail address;
 - e) inputting sender for each sender the input information to the input device;
 - f) generating an electronic postcard from the sender input information; and
 - g) transmitting the electronic postcard from the at least one input site to the server and from the server <u>directly</u> to the addressee e-mail address.
- 2. (Original) The method according to claim 1 including performing said step a) by operating a web site from the server and wherein said step c) includes connecting the at least one input site to the server over the Internet.
- 3. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1 including performing said step b) by selecting one of a gift shop, a hotel front desk, a motel front desk and a theme park as said the at least one input site.
- 4. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1 including providing a form for recording the sender <u>input</u> information and performing said step e) utilizing the sender <u>input</u> information recorded on the form by the sender.
- 5. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1 including performing said step e) by the sender inputting the sender input information into the input device.

- 6. (Original) The method according to claim 1 including performing said step e) by the sender selecting a local scene from a plurality of local scenes stored in one of the at least one input device and the server.
- 7. (Original) The method according to claim 1 including affixing a verified postmark to the electronic postcard, the verified postmark being uniquely associated with the at least one input site.
- 8. (Currently Amended) A method for communicating with electronic postcards comprising:
 - a) selecting at least one input site and storing a plurality of images related to the at least one input site, wherein the at least one input site is one of a gift shop, a hotel front desk, a motel front desk, and a theme park;
 - b) providing a user an input device at the at least one input site for receiving a postcard request from a sender <u>visiting the at least one input site</u>, the request including a selection of at least one of the stored images, a message and an addressee address, wherein the input device includes one of a printed form and a computer terminal;
 - c) generating an electronic postcard in response to the user request, the electronic postcard including the at least one stored image and the message;
 - d) affixing a verified postmark to the electronic postcard, the verified postmark being uniquely associated with the at least one input site; and
 - e) transmitting the electronic postcard <u>directly</u> to the addressee address.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Original) The method according to claim 8 including performing said step b) by selecting a location that sells preprinted postcards as the at least one input site.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Original) The method according to claim 8 including performing said step e) by transmitting the electronic postcard on the Internet.

- 13. (Original) The method according to claim 8 including providing the sender with a printed copy of the electronic postcard.
 - 14. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for generating printed postcards comprising:
 - a) a server means located at a predetermined location;
 - b) at least one input devices device located at an input site at a travel location remote from said server means for receiving from a sender visiting the travel location a postcard request including an addressee address and at least one of a sender message and a selection of a scene related to a the travel location of said input site and not provided by the sender; and
 - c) a verified communications connection for selectively connecting said <u>at least one</u> input device to said server means, said <u>at least one</u> input device and said server means being responsive to said postcard request for transmitting an electronic postcard including a verified postmark from said server means <u>directly</u> to the addressee <u>address</u>, said electronic postcard including said at least one of a sender message and a scene related to a <u>the travel location</u> location of said input site; <u>and</u>
 - d) a payment device connected to said at least one input device for accepting at least one mode of payment from the sender.
- 15. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 14 wherein said at least one input device includes means for inputting said message as a handwritten message of the sender.
 - 16. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 14 wherein said input site is a gift shop.
- 17. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 14 including a plurality of images of scenes stored on at least one of said server means and said <u>at least one</u> input device and wherein said <u>at least one</u> input device permits selection of said scene related to a location of said input site from said plurality of images.

- 18. (New) The apparatus according to claim 14 wherein said payment device is at least one of a credit card reader, a coin and bill acceptor, a token acceptor, and a keypad for entering a payment code obtained from a separate payment device.
- 19. (New) The method according to Claim 1 including the step of providing a payment device adapted to accept one or more modes of payment from the sender.
- 20. (New) The method according to claim 19 wherein the payment device is at least one of a credit card reader, a coin and bill acceptor, a token acceptor, and a keypad for entering a payment code obtained from a separate payment device.
- 21. (New) The method according to Claim 8 including the step of providing a payment device adapted to accept one or more modes of payment from the sender.
- 22. (New) The method according to claim 21 wherein the payment device is at least one of a credit card reader, a coin and bill acceptor, a token acceptor, and a keypad for entering a payment code obtained from a separate payment device.